

HONORING SERVICE OF COAST  
GUARD CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER  
L. ROBERGE

### HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2013*

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the extraordinary service of Capt. Christopher L. Roberge, who is retiring after nearly 30 years in the United States Coast Guard.

For the last two years, Capt. Roberge has shown incredible leadership as the Commander of Coast Guard Sector New England, overseeing 1,100 personnel in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and northern New York. His tenure there has capped an extremely distinguished career with over 30 military decorations, including four Meritorious Service Medals.

Since taking command, Capt. Roberge has strengthened Coast Guard operations in the sector and around the country. He identified key vulnerabilities in the sector's emergency communications system and implemented vital changes to make the system less susceptible to outages—his recommendations paved the way for similar upgrades around the country. The Reserve Readiness Assessment Program he developed has moved the sector's Reserve unit to the number one position in the nation for readiness. And while supporting the planning for the first-ever tidal power generator in a U.S. waterway, Capt. Roberge's guidance has put the Coast Guard in a better position to handle future energy projects.

Capt. Roberge's day-to-day management of the sector also served to distinguish him. His leadership and expertise ensured the flawless execution of 1,690 vessel boardings, 213 pollution responses, and 1,058 Search and Rescue cases, with over 2,000 lives saved or assisted and \$38.9 million in property preserved.

As an island resident who regularly makes ferry trips across miles of water, I have a personal appreciation for the men and women of the Coast Guard. I feel safer knowing that they stand ready to respond to an emergency with skill and courage, and deeply appreciate their willingness to risk their lives to save others. My special thanks to Capt. Roberge for the many ways he has better prepared the Coast Guard to answer the call when we need them, and for his exceptional service to the country. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

HONORING AUBURN  
MANUFACTURING, INC.

### HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2013*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Auburn Manufacturing, Inc. as it breaks ground on a significant expansion to its Auburn, Maine Kittyhawk Industrial Park location. Founded by President and CEO Kathie Leonard more than three decades ago, Auburn Manufacturing is known across the world as a leader in extreme temperature textiles.

Kathie and her former business partner founded Auburn Manufacturing in 1979. In the

intervening years, the company has grown to employ 50 employees, with its upcoming expansion set to create jobs for four new individuals. Kathie has never strayed from her core commitment to producing American-made textiles, seeking to enhance or improve Auburn Manufacturing's unique products without reinventing the wheel. It should come as no surprise that MaineBiz named Kathie one of its "Women to Watch" in 2009.

Auburn Manufacturing is the only manufacturer of extreme temperature fabrics to make its product line entirely in the United States. The company's commitment to producing "Made in the USA" products is in no small part because of Kathie's strong belief that domestic manufacturing is the key to innovation.

With another major expansion in Auburn Manufacturing's business plan, I have no doubt that Kathie and her employees will continue to turn out quality American made products for years and years to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me on congratulating Kathie Leonard and her employees as they begin this tremendous next chapter for Auburn Manufacturing.

### CELEBRATING INDIA PLAZA'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2013*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the India Plaza of Tempe, Arizona for its 10 years of dedicated service to the community.

Since 2003, India Plaza has served as a meeting place gateway for Arizonans into Indian culture, a center for education and celebrating diversity. They have also been actively engaged with the wider community, donating land and funds to various causes and working with both local government and Arizona State University to promote a more accessible city. India Plaza is a true community partner, receiving awards such as the "Best of Phoenix" and an Honorable Mention as "Tempe's Good Neighbor of the Year".

India Plaza serves as an excellent example to the rest of the Nation of what can be accomplished when people come together to promote diversity and understanding. It is my privilege to serve this great community. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating India Plaza on its 10 years of service and in wishing it many more.

### A TRIBUTE TO JOHN OSTRING

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize John Ostring for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neigh-

bors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

On a spring day in June, John Ostring was in his workshop when he heard an explosion from the home next door. As John told his wife Mary to call 911, the house had become engulfed in flames. Knowing his neighbor still may have been inside, Mr. Ostring ran into the burning house to find his neighbor unresponsive on the floor. To save her life, John picked her up and carried her outside until the first responders could arrive. Although the home was destroyed that day, a life was saved because of Mr. Ostring's bravery and quick thinking. John's life-saving actions provide a shining example that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ostring's actions that earned him the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating John on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.

### TRIBUTE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT MEN AND WOMEN

### HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 6, 2013*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to law enforcement men and women who have provided distinctive service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

Law enforcement is a demanding profession that requires sacrifice, courage and a dedication to serve others. Every day, brave men and women put themselves in harm's way to enforce the laws of our society and protect public safety. They deserve our gratitude and respect.

Last year, I established the 16th District Congressional Law Enforcement Awards, CLEA, to give special recognition to law enforcement officers, departments, or units for exceptional achievement.

This year, during National Police Week, I will present congressional law enforcement awards to the following winners chosen by an independent panel comprised of current and retired law enforcement personnel representing a cross-section of the district's law enforcement community.

Sergeant Ryan LaRowe of the Palmetto Police Department received the Career Service Award.

Officer Sean Hammett of the Venice Police Department, Sergeant Debra Kaspar of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, and Detective Louis Licata of the North Port Police Department received the Dedication and Professionalism Award.